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Memorandum

Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station
P.O. Box 3141 Portland, Oregon 97208

TO : Files

4500
DATE: Nov. 10, 1965

FROM : K. H. Wright

SUBJECT: Forest Insect Research (D.fir tussock moth)

During the week of October 25, Dave McComb of R-6 Pest Control Division checked reported tussock moth infestation areas west of Goose Lake, near Lakeview, Oregon. After he returned he telephoned the following information to me.

Three areas were checked, as follows:

Long Lake - Defoliation is visible, but very light. No top-killing has occurred. A few old egg masses found, but no new ones. It appeared the population had fed on new growth, and then died. Some branches supplied Thompson to see if there is virus on them. There was some indication of high parasitism of the old cocoons.

Dog Lake - Very light defoliation; tops only. Seven new egg masses were found; old ones were fairly abundant. McComb thinks outbreak is subsiding.

Weyerhaeuser - Area is some 1,000 acres in size, and is just south of the Oregon-California line. One-fourth to one-third of the crowns of trees have been defoliated. Trees of all sizes are present, making for relatively easy sampling. Egg masses are quite abundant; the ratio of new to old masses appears higher than the 5:1 ratio reported by Norm Johnson. The area is in the Corral Creek drainage and is accessible by a good road. Ownership is probably mixed Forest Service - private.

RLP
DRW

McComb left egg and branch samples with Thompson at Corvallis Lab. Tentatively, a trip to the area by Thompson and McComb was scheduled for Nov. 15-17. I propose that Mason accompany the group to evaluate usefulness of the area for population dynamics and host studies, and for pilot testing virus in 1966.

K. H. Wright

cc: Thompson, Mason

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